

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 7 and 8 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to address those informalities. Claim 8 has been canceled herein.

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 1 was unclear whether the components were selected from (a), (b) or both. The claim has been amended to delete (b) to clarify the question. Further, the alkyl moieties which were claimed were not clear. The claim has been amended to recite:

... The total number of carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety (ies) on the alkyl-benzene and on the polyalkyl benzene together is in the range of 1 to 10 ... .

This is supported by the identification of the samples on pages 9-14 of the specification.

In addition, the Examiner assumed a meaning for the expression of the vapor pressure and the viscosity. The Examiner's assumptions are correct and claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claim.

The expression " ... preferably in the range of ... " has been deleted from claim 1 and new claim 14 has been inserted herein to claim a specific temperature range.

Claim 2 was unclear as to which aromatic component was referenced. The claim has been amended to read:

... the alkyl moiety in the at least two structurally non-identical aromatic components is selected ... ".

Claim 2 was also unclear with respect to the name of the moiety. The claim has been amended to read:

" ... methyl n-propyl, ethyl n-propyl, methyl n-butyl ... ".

Claim 6 has been canceled herein.

Claims 7-8 and 10-12 was rejected because the term "ponderal ratio" is indefinite.

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Portion (b) of claim 1 has been deleted and there remains only one portion. The notation (a) was deleted. Claim 8, 11 and 12 have been canceled herein. Claims 7 has been amended to read:

" ... wherein there are two structurally non-identical aromatic components having a weight ratio in the range of ... ".

Claim 10 has been amended to read:

" ... wherein the two structurally non-identical aromatic components have a weight ratio in the range of ... ".

The claims have been restructured to be more grammatically correct. The expression "ponderal ratio" has been replaced with -- weight ratio -- based on the attached Webster's Third International Dictionary definition of "ponderal" being "of or related to weight". The website Answers.com also defines "ponderal" as "of or relating to weight". Additionally, page 9 of the specification states:

$$E = \text{Ponderal (weight \%)} \text{ Fraction of Components}$$

Further, enclosed is a Declaration from the patent agent who approved the wording in the English version of the parent international application. This Declaration also equates "ponderal ratio" with -- weight ratio -- .

Claims 1-5 and 7-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Hsu.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete portion (b) and claims 5, 8, 11 and 12 dependent from portion (b) have been canceled. Claim 1 and all dependent claims are now directed to a mixture of at least two structurally non-identical aromatic components consisting of alkyl benzene and



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polyalkyl benzene. Hsu does not teach this at least two component mixture but rather discloses a terpene component (which is not aromatic) and an alkyl benzene component. It is submitted that the cited reference does not describe each element of the claimed invention. Accordingly, lifting of this basis of rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsu in view of Praller. Claim 6 has been canceled herein and this issue is moot.

In view of the above, allowance of claims 1-4, 7, 9, 10, 13 (as amended) and 14 is respectfully requested.

It appears that all matters have been addressed satisfactorily, and that the case is now in condition for a complete allowance; and the same is respectfully urged.

However, if the Examiner has any comments or questions, or has any suggestions as per MPEP 707.07 (d) and (j), for putting the case in condition for final allowance, she is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned attorney-of-record at the telephone number below, so that an expeditious resolution may be effected and the case passed to issue promptly.

Mar 24, 2010  
Date

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMITTAL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: March 24, 2010  
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By:   
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Carolyn H. Bates



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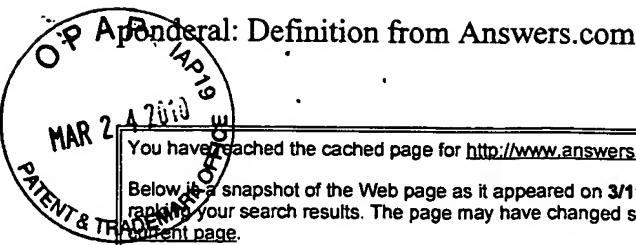
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one hundred years of Merriam-Webster dictionaries*

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## ponderal

Dictionary: Pon·der·al

a.

[Cf. F. *pondéral*.]

Estimated or ascertained by weight; -- distinguished from *numeral*; as, a **ponderal** drachma. [R.] Arbuthnot.

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English ▾

Word Tutor:

**ponderal**



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